



California Water Plan Update 2009

CALIFORNIA TRIBAL WATER SUMMIT



The 2009 California Tribal Water Summit Overview

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1. Background

Planning for the 2009 California Tribal Water Summit began in the fall of 2008. At that time, in October 2008, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the California Water Plan Update 2009's Tribal Communication Committee (TCC) invited all California Native American Tribes to join a Tribal Water Summit Planning Team.

In December 2008, the Planning Team met for the first time in Sacramento.

- The Team agreed that a two-day Summit would be held in 2009, with the theme being “Protect Our Sacred Water”, and that proceedings will be included in the California Water Plan Update 2009.
- The Team agreed that partnering with Tribes, Tribal organizations, and State agencies will provide many kinds of valuable support needed to make the Summit a success.

2. Goals for the Summit

The Team identified several goals for the Summit, including

- Provide an opportunity for the highest Tribal and State government officials to discuss policy issues and explore common interests and solutions – including a clear understanding of how Tribal and State governments can work together to address pressing issues like emergency response to flooding and climate change
- Ensure that the water access, use, and priorities of Native Peoples and Nations are recognized and well preserved in California's strategic water planning efforts – including a declaration and chart a “roadmap” with strategies for preserving Native water rights and the sustainable management of water resources
- Increase the visibility of Tribal water concerns – including highlighting partnerships and successes, and educating state, local, and federal officials, and academic institutions about Tribal institutions, history, and relations with water

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- Provide training for Tribes on critical issues like assessing water needs and testing water quality, as well as educating Tribes about state agency roles and responsibilities for water management and state grant programs

3. The Summit Planning Team

Planning for the 2009 California Tribal Water Summit began in the fall of 2008. The Team has continued to meet monthly since that time, with a few new people joining each time.

The Team involves over 30 people, including

- Tribal chairpersons, individual Tribal members, and people from Tribal Organizations
- DWR's Manager for Statewide Integrated Water Management and Tribal Liaison
- representatives other State agencies, including the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the California Emergency Management Agency, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the California Department of Conservation, and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- Environmental non-government organizations and foundations
- staff from the Center for Collaborative Policy, California State University Sacramento

Federal Agencies that have expressed an interest in participating in the Summit include the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Forest Service.

The Planning Team will continue to meet regularly until the Summit, which will be held on November 4 and 5, 2009, at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento.

4. Regional Tribal Water Plenary Meetings

At its December 2008 meeting, the Tribal Water Summit Planning Team agreed that California Native American Tribes have diverse concerns about water, and that regional meetings are needed to identify place-based issues and solutions, and to build broad interest and participation in the Summit.

In January and February 2009, the Team began planning the regional meetings. The Team identified four desired outcomes for each meeting:

- identify the key water issues that Tribes in each region are facing
- to discuss effective planning and management of water resources in each region
- formulate critical agenda topics for the Summit
- build new relationships among Tribes, and between Tribes and other entities

The Team agreed that Tribes in each region should be contacted and invited to help plan the agendas for each meeting. In January 2009, DWR and the Planning Team invited all California Native American Tribes to help plan, host, and spread the word about the regional meetings.

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Seven regional plenaries were conducted including:

1. March 4: Greater Kern, Kings, Tule, and South Central Valley – Weldon
2. March 10: North Coast – Redwood Valley
3. March 24: Southern California – Temecula
4. April 23: Owens Valley – Bishop
5. May 22: Central California – Sacramento
6. May 27: Lower Colorado River – Parker, Arizona
7. June 13: Far Northern California – Yreka

The Team agreed that information from each meeting should be shared at all subsequent meetings. Meeting summaries are available at <http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/tribal2>

The Team also reviewed the materials from a January 2008 plenary meeting held in Lakeport.

5. Topics to be Discussed at the Summit

Based on the regional plenary meetings, the Planning Team has identified two overarching topics and three additional topic bundles to be discussed at the Summit.

1. **Tribal Water Rights** (overarching topic for Summit)
2. **Water as a Sacred** (overarching topic for Summit)
3. **Rivers, Dams, and Fish**
 - river restoration
 - dam removal
 - relicensing
 - fisheries
4. **Institutions**
 - Tribal involvement in state and regional water planning
 - statewide consultation policy
 - State Office of Indian Affairs
 - Tribal access to bond funding
5. **Watersheds**
 - groundwater management
 - water quality
 - flooding and floodplain management
 - forest and fire management
 - local water districts
 - river restoration (deliberate repetition)

7. Topic Briefing Papers

Briefing papers are being drafted for each of the Summit topic areas. Their purpose is to frame key issues and thus help Tribes and State agencies prepare for the Summit. Final versions of all papers will be distributed to all California Native American Tribes and participating agencies, likely in early October. Early notice about the Summit topics is being provided to all Tribes so they do not have to wait for the briefing papers to begin preparing.

8. Financial Support for the Summit

The Planning Team aims to provide small honoraria for speakers and presenters, and to provide travel and accommodation subsidies for those participants who need financial assistance to

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attend the Summit. Altogether, the direct costs of the Summit, honoraria, and subsidies amount to approximately \$130,000. The California Department of Water Resources has expressed a commitment to covering around half of these costs.

The Planning Team is partnering with the North Fork Mono Tribe, a 509(a) 2 Tribal nonprofit organization, to serve as a fiscal agent that handles donations in support of the Summit.

9. Working Draft Summit Agenda

Again, the Summit will be held on November 4 and 5, 2009, at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento.

The two days of the Summit are all day meetings. Day One will focus primarily on clarifying Tribal water issues and positions. Day Two will focus on discussion between Tribal and State leaders about next steps for addressing Tribal water issues. Although the Summit is focused on state issues, Federal leaders will also be invited.

An evening banquet will include a cultural event and traditional foods.

The Summit will also include a series of exhibits, including the Tribal Water Stories Project and opportunities for training and funding.

A copy of the working draft agenda is attached.

10. Contact Information

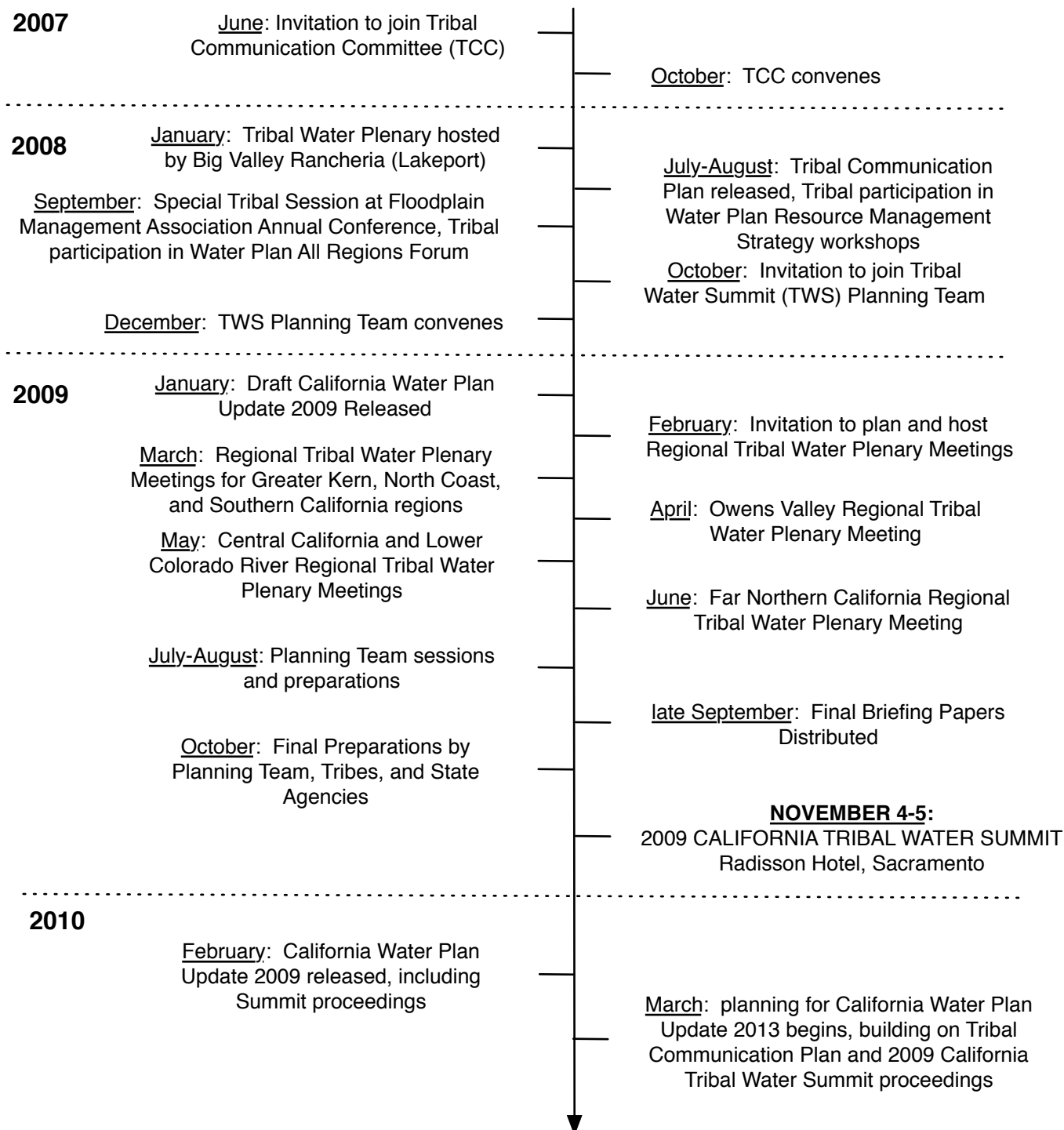
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11. Timeline



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DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM

#	Time	Item	Presenter
1	7:30 AM	REGISTRATION and Continental Breakfast	
2	8:30	Opening Prayer Opening Remarks Overview of the Summit	TBD Tribal Leader State official Member of Planning Team
3	9:00	Guidance for Issues and Positions Sessions	Member of the Planning Team
4	9:15	Issues and Positions: <i>Rivers, Streams, Dams, and Fish</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Restoration • Dam Removal and Relicensing • Fisheries • <i>Questions</i> 	Esteemed Moderator Tribal Leaders Senior State Officials
5	10:45	<i>Break</i>	
6	11:00	Issues and Positions: <i>Watersheds</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundwater Management • Forest, Fire, and Flood Management • Water Quality • River Restoration • Local Water Districts • <i>Questions</i> 	Esteemed Moderator Tribal Leaders Senior State Officials
7	12:30 PM	Buffet Lunch and Luncheon Speaker: <i>Tribal Water in the Future</i>	TBD
8	2:00	Issues and Positions: <i>Tribal Water Rights in California</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Questions</i> 	Esteemed Moderator Tribal Leaders Senior State Officials
9	3:30	<i>Break</i>	

Exhibits, including the *Tribal Water Stories Project* and opportunities for training and funding, will be on display throughout both days.

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#	Time	Item	Presenter
10	3:45	Issues and Positions: <i>Institutions/Legal/Agencies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal Involvement in State and Regional Water Planning • Tribal Access to Bond Funding • Statewide Consultation Policy • State Office of Indian Affairs • <i>Questions</i> 	Esteemed Moderator Tribal Leaders Senior State Officials
11	5:15	Closing Remarks for Day One	TBD
12	5:30	ADJOURN	

Evening Banquet and Tribal Water Stories – 6:30 to 8:30 PM

DAY TWO: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM

#	Time	Item	Presenter
1	7:30 AM	REGISTRATION and Breakfast	
2	8:30	Opening Remarks Overview of the Summit	Tribal Leader(s) State Official(s) Member of Planning Team
3	9:15	Synopsis of Day One Issues and Positions	Member of Planning Team
4	9:30	Keynote Speaker: <i>The History of Water in California</i>	TBD
5	10:00	<i>Break</i>	

Exhibits, including the *Tribal Water Stories Project* and opportunities for training and funding, will be on display throughout both days.

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#	Time	Item	Presenter
6	10:15	Discussion of Solutions and Next Steps: <i>Rivers, Streams, Dams, and Fish</i>	Esteemed Co-Chairs Tribal Leaders Senior State Officials
7	11:30	Buffet Lunch and Luncheon Speaker: <i>Water as Sacred</i>	TBD
8	12:45 PM	Discussion of Solutions and Next Steps: <i>Watersheds</i>	Esteemed Co-Chairs Tribal Leaders Senior State Officials
9	2:00	Keynote Speaker: <i>Tribal Water Rights in California</i>	TBD
10	2:30	Discussion of Solutions and Next Steps: <i>Tribal Water Rights in California</i>	Esteemed Co-Chairs Tribal Leaders Senior State Officials
11	3:45	<i>Break</i>	
12	4:00	Discussion of Solutions and Next Steps: <i>Institutions/Legal/Agency</i>	Esteemed Co-Chairs Tribal Leaders Senior State Officials
13	5:15	Roadmap for Addressing Tribal Water Issues	Esteemed Co-Chairs Tribal Leaders Senior State Officials
14	5:45	Summit Proceedings Closing Remarks for the Summit Closing Prayer	Member of Planning Team TBD TBD
15	6:00	ADJOURN	

Exhibits, including the *Tribal Water Stories Project* and opportunities for training and funding, will be on display throughout both days.